

# OrdnanceReports

News updates from around the world



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## Maintenance teams deal with dust

by U.S. Army Spc. Petersi Liu

CAMPARIJAN, Kuwait — Small, wind-borne dust particles can strike coalition forces at anytime and disable laptop computers, wear out vehicle engine belts, and damage generators.

The dust and heat of the desert can cause coalition forces' machines and electrical equipment to malfunction, causing creating a backlog in efficient operations.

The cost of replacements for equipment can be expensive and time consuming. However, maintenance teams here can usually repair equipment at a fraction of the cost.

The 514th Maintenance Company deployed here May 8 with 170 soldiers from the 10th Mountain Division out of Fort Drum, N.Y., to repair any serviceable vehicle and equipment that passes through here, with the exception of tracked vehicles and missile systems, said Capt. Ronnie Anderson, company commander.

The soldiers specialize in 30 different technical occupational specialties, he said.

"There were 10,298 work orders within 30 days from May 23," said Anderson. "Automotive maintenance accounts for nearly 50% of all work orders, generators and engine failures 25%, and other equipment repairs 25%."

Dust is the culprit for most of the maintenance problems, he added.

"Dust and debris can clog up fuel systems and other internal parts of vehicles. It harms engine starters, wears out belts and clogs generators, leading to engine failures," said Sgt. Matt Mahoney, vehicle technician of the company, as he displays a \$1.5 million dollar starter and generator tester.

"With the starter and generator tester, we can troubleshoot the problems and repair it instead of ordering replacement parts which can take weeks," said Mahoney. "A replacement for a Humvee starter



*U.S. Army Spc. Raul Garcia-Roves, utility equipment repairman, supplies refrigerants to an air-conditioner on a military police Humvee. The MP Humvee has an enclosed design to minimize dust getting inside the vehicle. Defense Dept. photo by Spc. Petersi Liu, CFLCC-PAO*

costs \$782 dollars, the cost to troubleshoot the problem and fix it with a spare part cost as little as \$15 to \$100 dollars."

The turnaround time for a maintenance order takes three to 90 days. If problems can be repaired, it takes as little as 24 hours.

If parts are unserviceable, new parts are ordered and shipping alone can take two weeks, said Anderson. However, most of the problems can be repaired, he added.

In addition, the company repairs and cleans dust prone night vision goggles and weapons. Canvas fabrication prevents damage to mechanical and electrical equipment from dust, Anderson said.

Spc. Thomas Stewart, canvas fabricator of the company, repairs and

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## Army packaging new task force for Iraq

WASHINGTON (Reuters) -The U.S. Army will deploy an experimental new security force in Iraq, packaging elite special forces, infantry, military police and civil affairs troops in one unit for more effective peacekeeping, a senior general said on Tuesday.

Such troops normally operate separately, but Army Vice Chief of Staff Gen. John Keane said the task force was being put together by U.S. Central Command and the 82nd Airborne Division in a Pentagon drive for military flexibility,

"The commanders are working it out right now as we speak. I think it's going to be a combination of forces we are taking in plus forces that are (already) on the ground. We will package them together in Iraq," Keane told reporters in an interview.

He did not say how large the force would be or where it would be deployed in a country where U.S. and British troops have been dogged by deadly attacks and problems ranging from lack of

electricity to language skills.

The Army and Marine Corps recently announced a new rotation policy for tens of thousands of American troops in Iraq that will have active units deployed there for yearlong assignments after the fall of President Saddam Hussein's government.

Keane said the new joint unit would include some infantry troops from the 82nd Airborne Division based at Fort Bragg, North Carolina, along with an Army Special Forces battalion, a civil affairs battalion and military police.

One of the major lessons learned by the U.S. military in wars in Afghanistan and Iraq after the September 2001 attacks on America has been the need for more joint operations within and among Army, Navy, Air Force and Marine Corps units, said Keane.

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## Con artists still targeting soldiers' families

Associated Press

FORT CARSON, Colo. — People posing as Army casualty notification officers have contacted the families of five soldiers deployed to Iraq in an apparent fraud attempt.

The suspects contacted the families by telephone and went to their doors in Army uniforms, said Maj. Joe Golden, rear detachment commander for the 3rd Brigade Combat Team.

The suspects told the families they had important news about their loved ones but asked to first see documents such as Social Security cards and birth and marriage certificates. One of the impersonators

asked for a check for \$300.

"This is not the way we do business," said Golden, adding the Army would never ask for that kind of information.

The incidents began in April, and the most recent one was about a month ago. No one has been arrested, and the cases are under investigation, said post spokesman Richard Bridges.

Fort Carson has 11,000 troops deployed in Iraq, and the post has lost 13 soldiers there, all since the end of major combat was declared on May 1.



*A U.S. army military policeman stands guard as Iraqi firemen extinguish a blazing shop after an explosion in the central part of Baghdad, August 6, 2003. A truck parked outside a Baghdad shop selling chemicals exploded, killing at least one Iraqi and setting the shop ablaze. Reuters photo.*



# Rumsfeld, Myers praise progress in war on terror

by Jim Garamone, American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON, Aug. 5, 2003 – Defense Secretary Donald H. Rumsfeld stressed the progress the coalition is making in Iraq in the security, political and economic spheres.

Rumsfeld and Joint Chiefs Chairman Air Force Gen. Richard B. Myers spoke at a Pentagon press conference today. Myers reported on his recent trip to the region – including stops in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Rumsfeld said the security situation in Iraq has improved. The deaths of Saddam Hussein's sons Uday and Qusay have served as a catalyst to convince average Iraqis that the Baathist regime is not coming back. "As a result, more Iraqis are coming forward to help as the coalition works to get the country back on a path to stability and self-government," Rumsfeld said.

As more Iraqis deliver information, coalition forces follow with raids that have netted hundreds of Baath Party supporters, ammunition and weapons, he said. Coalition forces have also captured or killed 38 of the 55 "most wanted" leaders of the former regime and "the forces have confiscated millions of dollars – money that could have been used ... to pay dead-enders to ambush American and British troops."

There have been impressive strides on the political side as well, Rumsfeld noted. Many cities and towns have set up councils that work with coalition forces to govern the areas. At the national level, the Iraqi Governing Council has met and is taking charge. It is working to find and appoint people to lead the various ministries in a reconstituted Iraq and will soon begin the process for a new Iraqi constitution.

Economically, the coalition has started the flow of oil out of Iraq, he continued. This promises to ensure the future well being of the country.

Myers also spoke about conditions in the region. He traveled to Iraq, Afghanistan, Qatar, India, Pakistan and Oman in late July. He said he wanted to get a "feel for the pulse of the coalition operations" in the region.

The general said the most important "takeaway" in Iraq was that coalition forces are making "incredible, remarkable strides toward the security and stability of Iraq."

He stated that U.S. soldiers "understand the mission, understand why they are in Iraq and they understand the greater mission in which the war in Iraq is just one part."

"I couldn't be more impressed with our forces or with their progress in Iraq," he said. He acknowledged that more needs to be done and that the conditions for American forces are still dangerous and primitive.

Myers said that in India he met with his counterpart and discussed improving military-to-military ties. In Pakistan, he discussed operations along the Pakistan-Afghanistan border. These operations

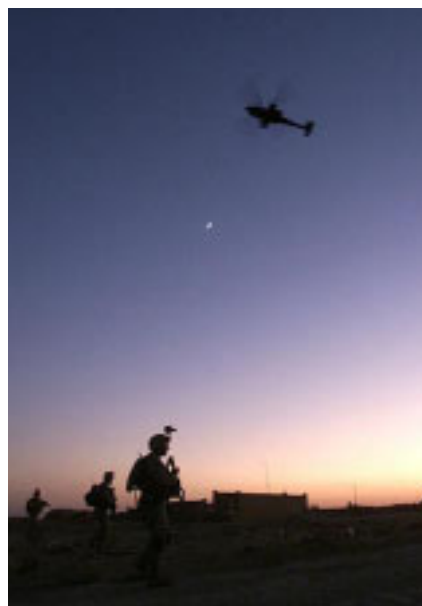


*IN TIKRIT — Iraqi police officers and 411th Military Police Company soldiers provide security while the house in front of them is searched in a village near Tikrit, Iraq, July 30. Soldiers of the 720th Military Police Battalion, Fort Hood, Texas, and Iraqi police officers were conducting a joint raid on several homes of Baath Party loyalists. The 720th Military Police Battalion military police and Iraqi police have begun working together to confiscate illegal weapons, arrest criminals and apprehend Saddam Hussein loyalists in and around Tikrit. U.S. Army photo by Pfc. Jason Phillips*

are designed to track down the remnants of the Taliban and al Qaeda still in the area.

In Afghanistan, Myers visited a provincial reconstruction team in the outpost of Gardez. The area was the heart of the al Qaeda-Taliban movement. "The PRTs not only create a positive effect on how the Afghan people view the coalition, but in how the people view their government," he said. "As in Iraq, I was impressed with the mission accomplishments that we're making."

"In general, the biggest shortcoming from Iraq to Afghanistan is not the accomplishment of the mission as much as it is getting the word out about the successes we're achieving every day."



*U.S. troops with the 187th Infantry Regiment, 101st Airborne Division, patrol al Alrisala, 50 miles (80 kms) south of Mosul on Saturday, Aug. 2, 2003. (AP Photo /Sergei Grits)*

# Ordinance disposal team makes Bagram, Afghanistan safer

By U.S. Army Sgt. Stephanie Hall / 4th Public Affairs Detachment

BAGRAM, Afghanistan, Aug. 4, 2003 - In order to reduce the amount of dangerous unexploded ordnances and small arms, the 797th Ordnance Company (Explosive Ordnance Disposal) and the 441st Ordnance Battalion (EOD), conducted an ammunition reduction operation Friday at the East River Range.

The ammunitions that were destroyed have been stockpiled at a safe hold area until they could be destroyed Friday, 1st Sgt. Gilbert Rodriguez, first sergeant of the 797th Ord. Co. (EOD). EOD teams conduct ammunition reduction operations every two to four weeks. This particular operation included more than 6,000 pounds of explosive weight with more than 10,000 pieces of small arms and various unexploded ordnances, said Rodriguez.

The EOD team calculated that the fragmentation radius was more than 860 meters and the blast radius was more than 1,700 meters.

"It was way too big to do here on Bagram Air Field," said Rodriguez. "Part of the safety is to calculate the blast and fragmentation radius for every piece of munitions that we dispose of so that nobody is in that blast area."

These munitions do pose a threat to coalition forces as well as the local communities, said Rodriguez. "That's why we dispose of them."

"These (munitions) could potentially be used against us," said Rodriguez. "We gather them and destroy them so they can't be used by whoever would want to shoot them at us."

The operation included four complete teams made up of EOD qualified personnel from the 797th Ord. Co. (EOD) and the 441st Ord. Bn. (EOD).

Personnel from the battalion augmented the teams because of the company's many missions. "The battalion really helped out with the amount of people that was needed," said Rodriguez.

Rodriguez said that a lot of the munitions come from caches that are found during sweeps and operations. "Some of it is also collected at



*More than 6,000 pounds of unexploded ordnance goes up in flames as Explosive Ordnance Disposal teams conduct an ammunition reduction operation, Aug. 1, 2003. U.S. Army photo by Sgt. 1st Class Phillip Whitley*

(local) police departments," he said. "Citizens will bring them what they may have had, or take the police to places where they may have found a couple of rounds," he said. "(Locals) also call up and turn munitions over to us."

It's very important for these munitions to be found and destroyed, said Rodriguez. "There are reports of children stepping on mines or getting hit by UXOs [unexploded ordnance], and the more munitions we pull out of the local area, the safer they're going to feel and they don't have to worry about this," he said. "We don't want people getting killed from things laying around from years of war."

Although completely clearing Afghanistan from landmines and other potentially dangerous UXOs may seem impossible to some, it is not impossible to Rodriguez and his team. "It may take years, but it's not impossible," he said. "There's a finite number of mines out there, and no one really knows how many, but there is a finite number; it's just a matter of time and effort."

## Army packaging new task force for Iraq continued

"Some of the more traditional and historical associations that we've sort of put together under a task force, they have to change," added the general, who will retire soon as the Army's second-ranking officer.

"These cases are cultural, some of them, but we're willing to cross these lines. And I think you're just going to see a lot more of them."



## 518th Maintenance Company

# *Rail ops are last step for redeployment*

by Maj. Donna Moore-Sturgill, California Army Reserve

Service as part of Operation Iraqi Freedom was a challenge to nearly every military unit involved. For many, including Fort Bliss' 518th Maintenance Company, the challenges did not end when they redeployed -- as the shipping of equipment back home presented challenges of its own.

A trip to the installations' Deployment Army Activity Group railhead July 21 revealed plenty of evidence to the challenges of redeployment. Dozens of the unit's vehicles arrived here that day and with each new shipment, a long, sometimes exhaustive, process began.

The train uplls up full of vehicles; the vehicles get chained to the rail cars. Solders are detailed as "spotters" to place aluminum spanners between "cars" for safety. Vehicles are started. If they start, they are driven forward one car zt a time. For safety, the spotter watches the spanners-adjusting them in between vehicular movements until finally each vehicle drives off one of two tracks onto one ramp (altogether called a spur) of the last car and into the unit marshalling area.

If the vehicle does not start, the contact truck, affectionately known as a "rolling garzge" becuase of its tools and limited spare parts, moves into action. The contact truct crew repairs whatever it is able to "on the scene" while the vehicles are still loaded on rails. Often, the batteries have corroded during sea shipment of these vehicles, so the contact truck keeps plenty of batteries stocked and ready.

If it is not the vehicle batter and the correct part cannot be found or mechanical problem identified, there are two options. If the vehicle is a High Mobility, Multi Wheeled Vehicle or smaller, a forklift is driven alongside the cars and merely lifts the damaged vehicle off to the side. If it is a larger vehicle, in moves the wrecker! The wrecker has to back-up onto the railway and "booms" (hooks) the vehicles off. Either way, off they go to the next level of maintenance.

There was some frustration in tracking these inbound shipments from Corpus Christi, Texas and Jacksonville, Fla. Deployment Army Activity Group personnel indicated that the longshoreman at thsoe ports did not really take notice of individual units and matching



*Pfc Chris Villerot, 2-43 Air Defense Artillery was on hand to assist 518th Maintenance Company as he adjusts the spanners between railcars.*

vehicle shipments to units. "They see Fort Bliss and the figure, 'Put them all together and they can sort them out there,'" said Chuck Dillard, Fort Bliss DAAG.

The 518th Maintenance Company commander, Capt. Chris Bradley, reiterated this lack of attention to detail in end-



*The 518th repair team goes to work on a disabled vehicle. The unit's vehicles returned to Texas July 21. Photo by Pfc Duane Fish.*

item arrangement, but with a slightly different view. "The longshoremen are paid by the hour. It costs thousands of dollars per shift [to the Army]. That's why they load according to installation, or it would get expensive." He went on to explain another reason it was done this way. "The rail companies load according to weight and balance for rail cars," he said. He pointed out this procedure maximizes safety and efficiency for shipping.

When asked, 518th troops sound as if these redeployment operations were the most interesting part of their mission in Kuwait. The standard response when asked about serving in Southwest Asia was, "It was hot and boring." If pressed for answers, many admit the mobilization did the unit wonders.

Bradley said, "What was good about the deployment was developing leadership. Getting people together. It gave the unit confidence."

Noncommissioned officers backed up the sentiment, as well. Sgt. Dan Lewellyn, who has been with the 518th for two years, said, "It was good to go to Kuwait because even though our mission was cancelled, we got to go through the process of getting prepared and actually going off to a real world mission."

Many NCOs said it was better than imagining it in a field training environment -- that they never know how it will be until you actually do it.

Lewellyn holds what Bradley calls "the most important job in a Patriot battalion." Each of these units has a direct support maintenance company. Lewellyn is a 27X, Patriot System repairer. He said, "You can't be a 27X until you're an E-5. We're trained at Redstone Arsenal, Ala., for four months on basic electronics and then nine months here at Fort Bliss on Patriot Missile System repair."

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# Strykers make first overseas deployment

by Joe Barrentine

FORT LEWIS, Wa. (Army News Service, Aug. 4, 2003) — After “grinding” through two years of training, a unit from the Army’s first Stryker Brigade Combat Team flew to Korea for its first international training mission July 30.

Sixty soldiers and six Stryker vehicles, from the Fort Lewis-based 3rd Brigade, 2nd Infantry Division’s, Company C, 5th Battalion, 20th Infantry Regiment, flew from McChord Air Force Base, Wash., on two C-17 Globemasters and then moved to a live-fire training exercise shortly after arriving.

“It’s the first time we really get the chance to do a long-haul movement with the Strykers,” said Staff Sgt. Matthew Goodine, the noncommissioned officer in charge of the battalion’s force modernization office.

The training exercise affords the soldiers the opportunity to conduct realistic training and familiarize themselves with the terrain and conditions on the Korean peninsula.

The unit wasn’t allowed to deploy outside the U.S. during its training period because of its congressional mandate, Goodine said. The Army also wasn’t allowed to form more than three Stryker brigades until the first brigade’s rotations at the National Training Center at Fort Irwin, Calif., or the Joint Readiness Training Center at Fort Polk, La., were reviewed, Goodine added.

After “grinding” through the last two years, Goodine said it was exciting to see the payoff.

“There’s pain involved in standing up a unit, so being at the culmination of that, we’re ready to go out and start doing stuff and being operational,” Goodine said. “It’s just a good feeling. When you put that much work into something, it’s always good to see it through to completion.”

In addition to being a great training opportunity for the infantry soldiers, the week long trip to Korea also gives other U.S. forces an opportunity to check out the newest member of the Army’s team, Goodine said.

“I think a lot of the guys are excited because we’re part of the 2nd ID (Infantry Division), and the 2nd ID doesn’t know what we do,” Goodine said. “So, we’re getting a chance to go over there and show the folks with the 8th Army and the 2nd ID a new capability that those who are in the Army can do.”

The 2nd ID, part of the U.S. VIII Army, is headquartered at Camp Red Cloud, South Korea. Most of the division’s units are there but the 3rd BCT is at Fort Lewis. They were chosen to be the Army’s first Stryker BCT in 2000 and were recently certified for overseas deployments after a rotation at JRTC.

Cpl. Matthew Sagabaen, a gun team leader, said all the training reminded him a little of school sports.



*Airman 1st Class Nathan Raun, a loadmaster with the 4th Airlift Squadron, guides a Stryker from the 5th Battalion, 20th Infantry Regiment, onto a C-17 July 30. The infantry platoon from the 3rd Brigade, 2nd Infantry Division, the first Stryker Brigade Combat Team, was on its way to the Republic of Korea for a week-long exercise. Photo by Joe Barrentine.*

“It’s like in high school football when you have two-a-days (practices) all summer you’re just waiting for the games to start,” he said.

In addition to the extended-travel training and the practice at loading and unloading, the trip also offers the unit the chance to practice setting up communications from scratch and much more.

“When we go into country, no one is going to support us digitally,” Goodine said. “So, we’re going to have to set up our own digital network so that we can practice command and control aspects as well. At a whole bunch of different levels we’re getting a chance to test stuff we haven’t done.”

Sagabaen said the training also provides the unit’s newer soldiers an opportunity to get up to speed as well.

“We’ve got a lot of new guys right now, so my priority is making sure that they get trained well,” he said.

The essence of the exercise from start to finish is speed and agility, said Staff Sgt. Michael A. Fulmer, with transformation’s Plans and Operations office.

“We can roll the Strykers off of Fort Lewis, load them on C-17s here at McChord Air Force Base and have them on the ground ready to fight in Korea in only 12 hours,” he said.

*(Editor’s note: Joe Barrentine is a journalist with the Northwest Guardian at Fort Lewis, Wash.)*



[www.defendamerica.mil/](http://www.defendamerica.mil/)

# Army investigates pneumonia cases in Iraq

by Spc. Bill Putnam

WASHINGTON (Army News Service, Aug. 5, 2003) — The Army has dispatched two teams of medical specialists to Iraq and Germany to investigate why pneumonia killed two soldiers and put 13 other servicemembers in the hospital.



About 100 cases of pneumonia have occurred in Southwest Asia since March 1, said Col. Robert DeFraites, the chief of the Army's preventive medicine program, at a Pentagon press conference Aug. 5. That number, given the number of troops deployed there, is expected, he added.

Of those 100 cases, 14 soldiers and one Marine developed cases of pneumonia serious enough to be hooked up to ventilators and be evacuated to Landstuhl Regional Medical Center, Germany, DeFraites said.

Three of the soldiers remain hospitalized and nine others have returned to duty, said Lyn Kukral, a spokesperson for the Army Surgeon General. The latest case of severe pneumonia occurred July 30. The two soldiers died in June and July, respectively, after serving in Iraq in different units.

Most cases of pneumonia occurred in Iraq, said DeFraites, other cases happened in Kuwait before Operation Iraqi Freedom, the others occurred in Qatar and Uzbekistan, DeFraites said.

The soldiers with pneumonia in Iraq were geographically dispersed throughout the country and came from different units. The cases were also spread over time, DeFraites said.

Two cases occurred in March; two in April; one in May; six in June; and four in July, he added.

Annually, about nine in 10,000 soldiers around the world have pneumonia that is serious enough to warrant hospitalization, said DeFraites.

The Epidemiological Consultation teams were sent last week by Lt. Gen. James Peake, the Army's surgeon general, to help Army medical

staffs in Iraq and Germany determine what is causing the cases, said Kukral.

One team went to Landstuhl and the other team went to Iraq.

The teams Peake sent consist of doctors, epidemiologists, infectious disease specialists, laboratory officers and technicians and preventative medicine technicians.

Their job is fact-finding and analysis, Kukral said. The teams will review patient records, and laboratory results. They will also ask questions of medical staff in Iraq and Germany, and possibly the affected soldiers.

What's causing the recent cases is still unknown and that's why the teams are being sent, said DeFraites.

The Army has identified the fairly common "infectious" type of the disease called streptococcal pneumonia in two of the cases, he said.

A soldier can get that type through a viral or bacterial infection, DeFraites said.

The other type of pneumonia is a "noninfectious" type that can be environmentally caused, he said. If a soldier smokes cigars or cigarettes, or is in a dusty, sandy area — like Iraq — he will be more prone to the disease, said DeFraites.

If the teams determine that the cases are unusual in any way, they will make preventive or corrective recommendations, DeFraites said.

A young, healthy person dying from pneumonia is rare but it does occur, said DeFraites. From 1998 through 2002, 17 soldiers died from pneumonia or from complications of pneumonia. About 500 soldiers are treated for the disease every year.

But the two deaths from the same disease within one month do raise alarms and that's the reason Peake sent the teams, DeFraites said.

"It's a fairly typical tool the surgeon general of the Army invokes to address this type of situation," DeFraites said, adding that teams are sent out "two to three times a year."

## Rail ops are last step for redeployment continued

Lewellyn outlined some of his experiences with the Military Occupational Specialty. "Right out of school I went to Kunsan Air Base, South Korea. Patriot systems are generally co-located with air bases to guard against possible enemy air and missile attacks that could contain chemicals deployed to hinder our operations," he explained.

When he deployed for the war with the 518th he was stationed at an air base in Bahrain, Kuwait. "We called it Camp Oasis." He said they need more experienced personnel in his MOS because they are often a one-man show, going to remote locations where equipment has broken down. They often jump from one location to the other, so a systematic knowledge of how the Army runs is imperative, as

they are not with their assigned unit much of the time.

Patriot assets are normally used to protect air bases and rear operations, however, as in the case with Operation Iraqi Freedom, some Patriot units moved forward with maneuver units (armor and infantry) for protection as they advanced toward Baghdad.

Now back home, Lewellyn and the rest of the unit are busy collecting their incoming vehicles. The rail offload operations were hot and dusty, but the conditions did not compare to all they had witnessed overseas. All in all, it seemed like the 518th and their fellow units have gained much from this experience and now, with their equipment coming home, they are ready and eager to hit the ground running.



# DoD will examine options before requesting more troops

by Jim Garamone, American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON, Aug. 5, 2003 – If needed, DoD will ask Congress to authorize more soldiers. But first officials at the department would like to see if there are other ways to handle deployments and not raise the troop ceiling, Defense Secretary Donald H. Rumsfeld said during a Pentagon news conference Aug. 5.

If after careful consideration, Rumsfeld decides that the military needs more service members, he will recommend that to President Bush. But first, there are a number of other methods to extend the span of U.S. forces.

American service members are participating in operations in Iraq, Afghanistan, Kosovo, the Sinai and Bosnia. In addition, there are U.S. troops based in Japan, Korea and Europe.

Rumsfeld said the department is addressing the problem. Joint Chiefs Chairman Air Force Gen. Richard B. Myers said the military is not stretched too far now, and it can handle its missions.

Rumsfeld listed a number of options: He said the military can put in place a more efficient deployment and redeployment process. The services also should examine – as the Navy is – using technology to cut down manning necessary for ships and other weapons systems. He said the services must look at “rebalancing the reserve component with the active force component so that we don’t have to have the kinds of call-ups that we do now.”

The United States might examine using more service members from allies in some operations and, in the case of Iraq, manning the army, civil defense forces and the police with Iraqis.

The United States also needs to keep close watch on deployments and continue the drawdown in Bosnia and Kosovo and the Sinai.

Another option is to take the 300,000 to 380,000 U.S. military members who are in jobs better done by civilians and return them to military roles. “We need to get the personnel system passed by the Congress so that we have the ability to manage our civil service system, and not have to constantly put military people into positions that don’t require military people,” he said. “That is a pile of people. They need to be doing military functions.”

Rumsfeld said officials should re-examine war plans in light of the new information gleaned from operations in Afghanistan and Iraq. The new methods, technologies and capabilities need to be used to their utmost, he said.

Rumsfeld said that before he tells the president the department needs more people, he would like to try all these options.

Myers made another point. He told reporters that personnel accounts — including medical and other quality of life options — are expensive.

“It’s a very expensive solution,” he said. “And it’s not a solution that comes on line right away. You can authorize it, even provide the

money for it, but it takes you time to recruit, train and so forth. So it’s not an immediate solution to any of the issues that people want to raise right now.

“If you’re going to do it, you’re going to have to live with it probably for a long time, and you better think that through carefully, since that’s a significant part of your budget.”

Rumsfeld said such a step should be taken carefully. “We have a big department,” he said. “We’re absolutely open-minded about how many people we have in the services. We want to have the right number. And the way to get to the right number is not the first time you feel the effects of a spike in activity – as we do right now with Iraq – immediately decide, ‘Well, the solution’s to that to increase end strength.’

“Now we get about the task of really running this place right and seeing that we’re respectful of the taxpayers’ dollars and see that we make the most effective use of the force. And that’s what we’re in the process of doing.”

## U.S. military helicopters land in U.S. Embassy in Liberia

by Glenn McKenzie

MONROVIA, Liberia (AP) - Three U.S. military helicopters landed at Liberia’s high-walled U.S. Embassy on Wednesday, a day after President Bush promised to send a first American team to Liberia’s war-divided capital.

U.S. officials declined to immediately confirm whether the helicopters contained the promised six- to 10-member U.S. military team. The team is moving in as Nigerian troops at Monrovia’s airport - the vanguard of a West African peacekeeping force - prepared to enter the capital for the first time.

American authorities barred journalists from the embassy for the landing. They would confirm only that three members of a U.S. humanitarian team were on the flights.

The helicopters, swooping in from across the Atlantic, disappeared behind the embassy walls as they landed.

Bush on Tuesday authorized a contingent to deploy for logistical support of the steadily building West African deployment. A senior Bush administration official, speaking on condition of anonymity, said the team could grow as large as 20 in coming days, but the official said that it should not be seen as the beginning of a larger deployment.

The USS Iwo Jima amphibious assault ship and USS Carter Hall amphibious landing dock were within 100 miles of Liberia, out of sight from shore. The amphibious transport dock USS Nashville

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## **U.S. military helicopters land in U.S. Embassy in Liberia continued**

was moving toward Liberia. U.S. officials have spoken of the ships moving into sight of Monrovia at some point - in an intended show of force for combatants and residents.

With hundreds of thousands of refugees and residents in government-held parts of Monrovia desperate for food, West African and U.S. diplomats have been working - with no word of success - to negotiate access routes to the rebel-held port area, where warehouses stocked with food are located.

Nigerian Lt. Col. Sam Nudamajo said he expected to send the first troops from his force into the city later Wednesday, to head toward the port. Three days since they arrived, Nigerian forces were building to battalion strength of 770-men at Liberia's main airport, outside Monrovia.

Rebels have besieged the capital for months with the goal of ousting President Charles Taylor, a former warlord blamed in 14 years of conflict in once-prosperous Liberia and indicted for war crimes in nearby Sierra Leone. The fighting in Monrovia has killed well over 1,000 civilians.

On Wednesday, Taylor's forces stood guard in the middle of the bridges between the port and the government's stronghold downtown. They turned back hungry civilians trying to cross into the rebel territory in search of food.

Taylor's forces allowed only journalists to cross Wednesday. On the rebel side, civilians waited anxiously inside for clearance to cross over to reach hospitals in government territory for malaria and bullet- and shrapnel wounds from fighting.

"We have enough food here. But there are insufficient drugs to give medical attention to our sick, and war-wounded," said Sam Van Kessel, a journalism professor.

Residents of the rebel side were tending their wounded and sick in schools, churches and rebel headquarters, with local doctors helping as they could.

In front of journalists, rebels cracked down on looting of shops and warehouses - at one point shooting a man they said was a looter before an Associated Press Television News camera. It was unclear if the man died.

Six bodies - some naked, others with their hands tied behind their backs - lay on sidewalks and water-clogged streets among cans of orange juice, emptied boxes and other looted goods.

Rebel officers used rubber hoses to whip three crying, shirtless subordinates, also accused of looting.

On Tuesday, U.S. Ambassador John Blaney joined West African officials in a convoy to the rebel-held side, appealing to rebel commanders to open up humanitarian access to the port.

Rebel chief of staff Maj. Gen. Abdulla Seyeah Sheriff told reporters Wednesday that would happen only when Taylor resigns and leaves



*A Liberians United for Reconciliation and Democracy (LURD) rebel fighter signals his good intentions as the convoy containing Nigerian peacekeepers and the American ambassador cross the bridge into the rebel-held port area of the Liberian capital Monrovia, Tuesday, Aug 5, 2003. (AP Photo/Ben Curtis)*

Liberia. "We will hold our positions," until then, said Sheriff.

Earlier, Taylor's military chief of staff, Gen. Benjamin Yeaten, warned that if rebels fail to withdraw from the port it could "tempt me" to break the cease-fire.

Bush and West African leaders have demanded that Taylor cede power and leave Liberia, taking an asylum offer in Nigeria. Taylor has pledged to leave office Monday, but his government says he will leave the country only when an adequate number of peacekeepers are on the ground - and a U.N.-Sierra Leone war-crimes indictment against him is dropped.

On Wednesday, the World Court confirmed that Liberia had asked it to stop the war crimes prosecution. Officials at the World Court, the U.N.'s highest judicial body, said it would have jurisdiction only if Sierra Leone agrees.

The U.N.-backed Sierra Leone court accuses Taylor of crimes against humanity for backing Sierra Leone's rebels in a brutal 10-year civil war there.



*Rebel fighter Samson Toe rests his chin on his AK47 at the Liberians United for Reconciliation and Democracy (LURD) command center in the Liberian capital Monrovia Wednesday, Aug 6, 2003. The city remained quiet Wednesday morning with a fragile ceasefire between government and rebel forces. (AP Photo/Ben Curtis)*

## New chief issues ‘arrival message’

General Peter J. Schoomaker  
35TH CHIEF OF STAFF OF THE ARMY  
Arrival Message, August 1, 2003

This afternoon I stood in the office of the Secretary of the Army and was sworn in as the 35th Chief of Staff of the Army. Thirty-four other distinguished leaders have preceded me — well-known stewards of our Army. It is a great honor to walk in their footsteps.

Twenty-three years ago I stood in another place — in the Iranian desert on a moonlit night at a place called Desert One. I keep a photo of the carnage that night to remind me that we should never confuse enthusiasm with capability. Eight of my comrades lost their lives. Those of us who survived knew grief ... we knew failure — but we committed ourselves to a different future.

There were some important things we did not know about the future that night. We did not recognize that this was a watershed event — that the military services would begin a great period of renewal that continues to this day. We did not know that we were at the start of an unprecedented movement to jointness in every aspect of our military culture, structure, and operations — a movement that must continue. We also did not realize that we were in one of the opening engagements of this country’s long struggle against terrorism — a struggle that would reach our homeland and become known as the Global War on Terror.

Today, our Nation is at war and we are a critical part of the joint team — an Army at war. This is not a new war. Our enemies have been waging it for some time, and it will continue for the foreseeable future. As the President has stated, “This is a different kind of war against a different kind of enemy”. It is a war we must win, a war for our very way of life.

War is both a physical reality and a state of mind. War is ambiguous, uncertain, and unfair. When we are at war, we must think and act differently. We become more flexible and more adaptable. We must anticipate the ultimate reality check — combat. We must win both the war and the peace. We must be prepared to question everything. What is best for the Nation? What must endure? What must change? This war has demonstrated that our Soldiers, civilians, and families are up to the task. It has also provided new insights into the current operating environment. Can we sustain our high performance with our current methods of preparation? Can our Combat Training Centers better reflect the joint context in which we will fight? Are we organized for the long haul? We must answer these questions and more. We need to be mindful that the world has changed and it will never return to what we knew before. As my great friend, Dick Meadows, always said, “The Army ain’t like it used to be — and it never was”.

Sustained engagement of our Army will be the norm, not the exception. How do we man the Army in a way that provides cohesive, high performing units in this reality of continuous engagement? Our recent combat operations reinforce the

requirements for units and echelons that are flexible and tailorable. Can we balance our force structure and develop increased modularity so as to enhance our critical role in effective joint contingency operations while maintaining our campaign qualities?

We have already shown that we have innovative and adaptive leaders. But our enemies are adapting as well. Will our development programs continue to produce leaders who can meet this challenge? Leadership and courage are easily recognized as prerequisites at the tactical level, but they are essential at the operational and strategic levels as well. Are we developing the George C. Marshalls for the new era? The National Guard and Army Reserve are indispensable, full members of the team. Do we have the proper mix of both active and reserve units? Are we properly balanced? Is all of our structure readily accessible to meet the requirements of this and future wars? As we transform the Army from the current force to the future force, we must ask these questions and more. While some things will change, others will not.

The American Soldier remains indispensable. Our Soldiers are paramount and will remain the centerpiece of our thinking, our systems, and our combat formations. As General Creighton Abrams taught us, “People are not in the Army, they are the Army”. We are, have been, and will remain a values based institution. Our values will not change and they are non-negotiable. Our Soldiers are Warriors of character. They exemplify these values every day and are the epitome of our American spirit. They are the heart of the Army. As long as the United States Army has existed, we have transformed — and we always will. For four years under General Shinseki, our Army has asked hard questions and made tough choices. We will continue to go where the answers to those questions take us. Our azimuth to the future is good. The Army must remain relevant and ready.

Our Army has much to be proud of. It is the preeminent land force in the world — and continues to be respected by our friends... and feared by our enemies. We set the standard. We were part of the joint team that defeated the Taliban in Afghanistan and took down a brutal regime in Iraq. Today, we are deployed and conducting contingency operations at an unprecedented pace. Our Soldiers, civilians, and their families set the standard every day for selfless service.

The Army continues to serve our great Nation well and faithfully as it has in the past. For more than 228 years, the Army has never failed the American people, and it never will.

As an American Soldier, I have never left your ranks; but it is a great privilege to wear our uniform once again.

Schoomaker

# U.S. find weapons in series of Iraq raids

by D'Arcy Doran

TIKRIT, Iraq (AP) - U.S. forces said Wednesday they arrested 19 suspected members of the anti-U.S. resistance and killed another, and found a huge stockpile of weapons in a series of raids in northern Iraq. But the big prize - Saddam Hussein - remained elusive.

Iraq's postwar recovery continued: In Baghdad, the U.S.-installed Governing Council asked for U.S. help in creating desperately needed jobs, while to the south in Diwaniyah, Spanish soldiers began setting up a base for troops from Spain and four Latin American countries to replace U.S. forces heading home.

For the fifth straight day, no U.S. military personnel were reported killed in attacks. Military combat deaths had been coming almost daily, with 52 U.S. soldiers killed in combat since May 1, when U.S. President George W. Bush declared major combat over.

The U.S. military announced the arrest of a man it said was organizing guerrilla attacks against American soldiers. The man, nabbed Sunday by Iraqi police officers, was the brother of a Saddam bodyguard captured by U.S. forces on July 29, said Lt. Col. Steve Russell of the 4th Infantry Division.

Russell did not identify the man, but said he was the brother of Adnan Abdullah Abid al-Musslit, who was believed to have detailed knowledge of Saddam's hiding places.

Eighteen other suspected guerrillas were arrested in seven overnight raids across north-central Iraq, Maj. Josslyn Aberle said.

She also said soldiers uncovered a large weapons cache 40 kilometers (25 miles) northeast of Tikrit, Saddam's hometown, on Sunday. It included two 7-meter-long (20-foot) missiles, 3,000 mortar rounds, 250 anti-tank rockets and almost 2,000 artillery rounds.

She said an Iraqi informant led soldiers to the cache.

Russell said a man tried to attack soldiers with a rocket-propelled grenade in downtown Tikrit, but soldiers killed him before he could fire.

"He was sneaking through an alley way and we engaged him. Soldiers saw him fall," Russell said, adding: "We will engage or kill anyone with RPGs."

U.S. military sources reported a failed raid last week near the northern city of Mosul to capture one of Saddam Hussein's most trusted aides and No. 6 on the U.S. list of most-wanted, Izzat Ibrahim al-Douri.

The Governing Council asked the U.S. civilian administrator, L. Paul Bremer, to meet with it to discuss a job-creation plan. Creating jobs is seen as one of the most crucial tasks in reducing rising crime and restoring normalcy in Iraq.

In Diwaniyah, 160 kilometers (100 miles) south of Baghdad, Spanish Brig. Gen. Alfredo Cardona set up a base camp for troops from



*U.S. soldiers serve breakfast to new recruits of Joint Iraqi Security Company, or policemen, in front of Saddam Hussein palace, now a U.S. army base, in Mosul, Iraq, Wednesday Aug. 6, 2003. (AP Photo/Manish Swarup)*

Spain, Honduras, Nicaragua, El Salvador and the Dominican Republic scheduled to arrive within weeks.

"We're repairing old barracks, setting up tents and installing air conditioners. We should be ready by Sept. 1," he said. He didn't let journalists tour the base.

Their arrival will let U.S. troops head home from the region.

But new U.S. troops prepared to deploy. The 10th Mountain Division at New York's Fort Drum said Wednesday it would deploy another 600 troops to Iraq. The entire 1st Battalion, 32nd Infantry Regiment, will "prepare for future contingencies as may be directed," the Army said.

In Baghdad, about 5,000 members of Iraq's Turkmen minority demonstrated in front of the main U.S. military and political base to demand broader representation for their ethnic minority in the U.S.-appointed governing council. Only one of the council's 25 members is Turkman.

The protesters, most of whom came by bus from heavily Turkman areas in northern Iraq, also accused Kurds of immigrating to traditionally Turkman areas.

Iraq has a tense mix of religions and ethnicities, and many minorities are worried about their treatment and influence in Iraq's still forming state.

The grandson of the late Iranian leader, Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini, in Baghdad to set up a Shiite Muslim seminary movement, praised the U.S. war and said he hoped Iraq's newfound freedoms could spread to neighboring Iran. The grandson, Seyed Hussein Khomeini, has been critical of the Islamic revolution his grandfather led in 1979.

**continued on page 12**



# One-man shop keeps 978th MP Co. up and running

by Spec. Leeann Lloyd, Fort Bliss Monitor staff

LSA DOGWOOD, Iraq -- His desert camouflage uniforms have been replaced with grease-stained coveralls. His name is Doy Tootsie, and he is a one-man shop in the art of automotive repair. His mission is solely to keep 978th Military Police Company's First Platoon up and running. As the only light-wheeled vehicle mechanic with the platoon, the task is not always an easy one.

"My mission is to keep the vehicles mobile and repaired, and to take care of on-th-spot corrections as far as unit-level maintenance is concerned," Tootsie said.

Most of the time, the specialist's work calls for 'third shop' maintenance, such as changing tires or transmission repair. Sometimes, though, things are a little more troublesome. When Platoon Leader 2nd Lt. Rob Rogers' vehicle went down, between the harsh Iraqi dust and lack of needed parts, getting the vehicle up and running again became a two-day mission for Tootsie.

"I had to replace the power steering pump. The shaft of the power steering pump snapped off, causing the power steering pump pulley to go through the fan blades. I had to replace and repair all broken parts," Tootsie said.

"We have asked the brigade currently supporting us to assist with obtaining automotive parts, but a lot of the times we have to wheel

## U.S. find weapons in series of Iraq raids continued

"As an Iranian, I see it as a liberation from oppression and dictatorship and tyranny which was never known before in history," he told Associated Press Television News. "This was their salvation from their suffering."

But the former chief U.N. weapons inspector in Iraq, Hans Blix, denounced the war in his strongest language yet, saying the United States had better options than war and questioning its logic that war was needed to disarm Iraq of weapons of mass destruction.

"Personally, I found it peculiar that those who wanted to take military action could - with 100-percent certainty - know that the weapons existed, and at the same time turn out to have zero percent knowledge of where they were," Blix told a Swedish radio program.

The United States has yet to find any weapons of mass destruction in Iraq, or to find their biggest prize, Saddam himself.

A series of raids have captured many of Saddam's top aides and killed his powerful sons Odai and Qusai, but Saddam has slipped away every time.

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EDITOR'S NOTE - Associated Press Writers Matt Moore in Mosul, Tarek al-Issawi in Diwaniyah and Sameer N. Yacoub in Baghdad contributed to this report.

and deal around the compound," Tootsie said. Radial tires are what he needs most, he said.

"The road services in Iraq are substandard. Our Humvees are at a higher risk for a lot of road hazards when you consider the metal and scraps on the roads, and all the off-road driving we do," Tootsie noted.

Tootsie takes what he does very seriously, because he understands that a simple vehicle malfunction at the wrong moment could be a crucial, even deadly, mistake.

"When our guys go on missions, if they have to leave one vehicle behind, it decreases the security of the convoy. That means there are teams out there to properly secure the convoy," Tootsie said.

Preventive maintenance checks and services are the key to keeping the vehicles in good shape, Tootsie said.

"When they're not on missions, the soldiers are checking out their vehicles. They do what they can to help, because they know I am only one man and can't do all the work on my own," Tootsie said.

Keeping the vehicles properly maintained isn't Tootsie's only concern. He also has to make sure he keeps himself properly maintained. If he is ill, there is no one else to take his place.

"In 130-degree temperatures where we don't have shade or cover and we work in direct sunlight, it's very important to take care of yourself. We are very aware of the possibility of heat exhaustion and have to constantly keep hydrated," Tootsie said.

While Tootsie's missions can seem never-ending at times, it doesn't keep his mind off the things he misses most from back home: his wife of 10 years, Anne, and his three children. Tootsie has two boys, 10-year-old Lomataywa and 7-year-old Tepsivaya, and one girl, 5-year-old Selena. The hardest part for him, like many soldiers, is being without them.

To pass time and get him through, Tootsie relies on his creative abilities and his faith in his Native American heritage with the Hopi Tribe. Tootsie draws on the rocks on the floor of his tent, adding a festive energy and decor. Once in a while he'll do a rain dance, and once in a while it works, he said.

But while away from his family and the life he's used to, he's made a family of the soldiers who surround him.

"These MPs watch my back; they catch me if I fall. It's good to know I have their support. I couldn't work for a better bunch of guys," Tootsie said.

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*The United States is sending a handful of Marines into Liberia from ships offshore to provide logistical support for West African military peacekeepers in the civil war-torn African nation, U.S. defense officials said on August 6, 2003. U.S. Marines are shown arriving at the U.S. embassy in Monrovia, July 7.*



*Capt. Eric Beaty, commander of Company C, answers questions from Korean and international media following the Stryker platoon's capabilities demonstration at the Rodriguez Range Complex, Aug. 4. Photo by Sgt. Lisa Jendry.*

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## **Maintenance teams deal with dust continued**

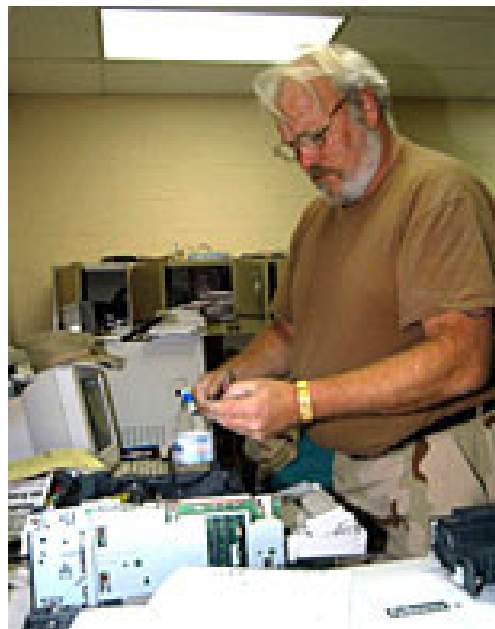
makes tents, trailer-generator covers, Humvee doors, and computer covers to offset the wind-borne dust particles.

"There are around 40 various canvas work orders per month. Computers covers are necessary because the dust is so fine that it gets into the computers easily," Stewart said.

Ron Maynard, civilian computer technician of Army Material Command, cleans and fixes thousands of dust-infested computers sent from the theatre of operations to the AMC's 24-hour-seven-days-a-week technical assistance shop here.

"Computers, printers, fax machines, copier and data process equipments are vulnerable to airborne dust particles, especially hard drives and floppy disks – the sand grinds on the spinning mechanism," said Maynard.

Equipment may fail because of the little dust particles, but maintenance teams will not fail to fix the equipment.



*Donald Suckstorff, computer technician of the Army Material Command, repairs a printer that has dust and rust damage. Defense Dept. photo by Spc. Petersi Liu, CFLCC-PAO*





*Liberians welcome the arrival of Nigerian peacekeepers at the airport outside Monrovia, hoisting one of the soldiers, Col. Emeka Onwuama, onto their shoulders. The forces were sent to help end fighting in the capital. (AP photo)*



*U.S. troops patrol the streets in a tank after an attack on a police station, Tuesday, Aug. 5, 2003, in Fallujah, 65 km (40 miles) west of Baghdad, Iraq. A U.S. soldier and two Iraqi police officers were injured when an RPG (rocket propelled grenade) struck the station. (AP Photo/Samir Mezban)*

*A U.S. soldier helps a newly recruited Iraqi police officer with his pull-ups, during morning training session in front of a palace of Saddam Hussein, now a U.S. army base, in Mosul, Iraq, Wednesday Aug. 6, 2003. (AP Photo/Manish Swarup)*



*Soldiers from the Polish 25th Airborne Cavalry Brigade on a training field, as seen in this July 18, 2003 file photo in Tomaszow Mazowiecki, central Poland, before being deployed to Iraq as a part of the Polish-led stabilization force. (AP Photo/Czarek Sokolowski)*

